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Horrible Lori

A Reading A-Z Read-Aloud Book
R-controlled O • Word Count: 551




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Horrible Lori



Written by Dolores Kleinholz
Illustrated by Nora Voutas

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WORDS USED IN THIS BOOK

High-frequency words:

1–100 a, about, all, an, and, are, at, away, be, but, can, come, each, for, four, from, has, he, her, his, how, I, if, in, is, it, like, look, more, was, no, not, of, on, other, our, out, play, said, see, she, so, some, than, that, the, their, they, this, to, up, we, were, what, will, with, would, you, your

101–200 come, good, help, here, into, little, off, please, under, yes

R-controlled /o/ words:

ordinary, morning, Corey's, neighborhood, chores, Theodore, explore, outdoors, fort, corner, orchard, neighbor, Norman, lords, roared, horses, armor, swords, snorted, tore, porch, ignored, important, orangutan, Jordan's, Lori, retorted, incorrigible, horrible, normal, four, sport, implored, Matterhorn, popcorn, short, form, core, tore, orchid, airport, sandstorm, more, ordered, soaring, orbit, cardboard, coloring, bored, stormed, door, worn, formula, thorny, orange, story, or, for, implored

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© 2004 Learning Page, Inc.
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It was an ordinary Saturday morning in Corey's neighborhood. After doing their chores, Corey and his best friend, Theodore, were ready to explore and play outdoors all day.

"Let's build a fort in a corner of the orchard!" Theodore said. "Should we invite your neighbor Norman to help us?"

"No, our fort will be for us only. We'll be lords of the castle!" Corey roared. "We'll ride horses and wear armor and swords."



The boys snorted like horses and tore around the backyard. Corey's mother appeared on the back porch. "Corey, please come here," she said.

Corey ignored her and kept charging around the yard.

"Corey!" Mom shouted. "This is important, so please come here."

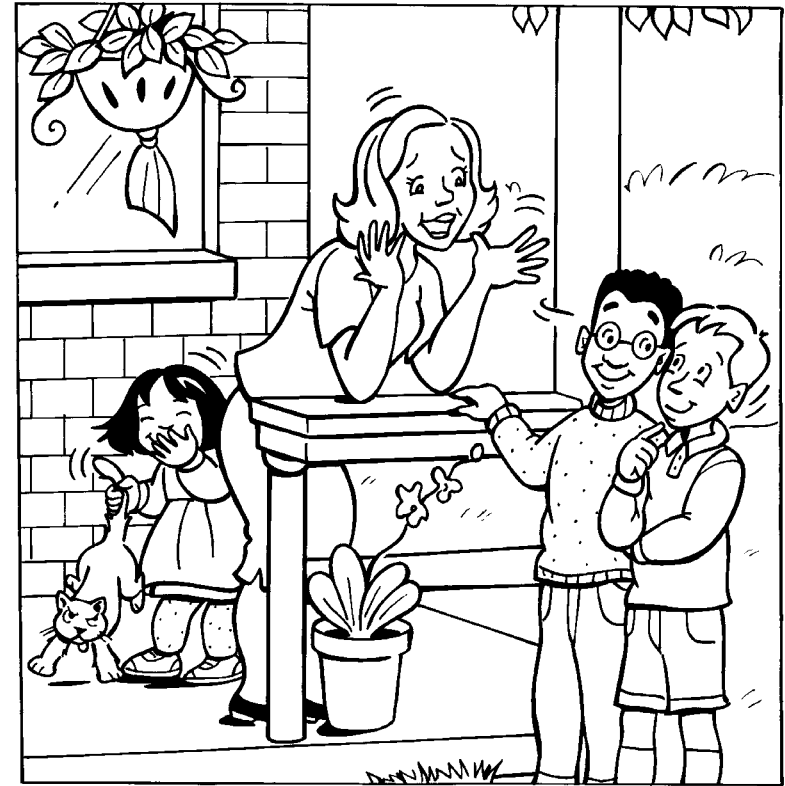
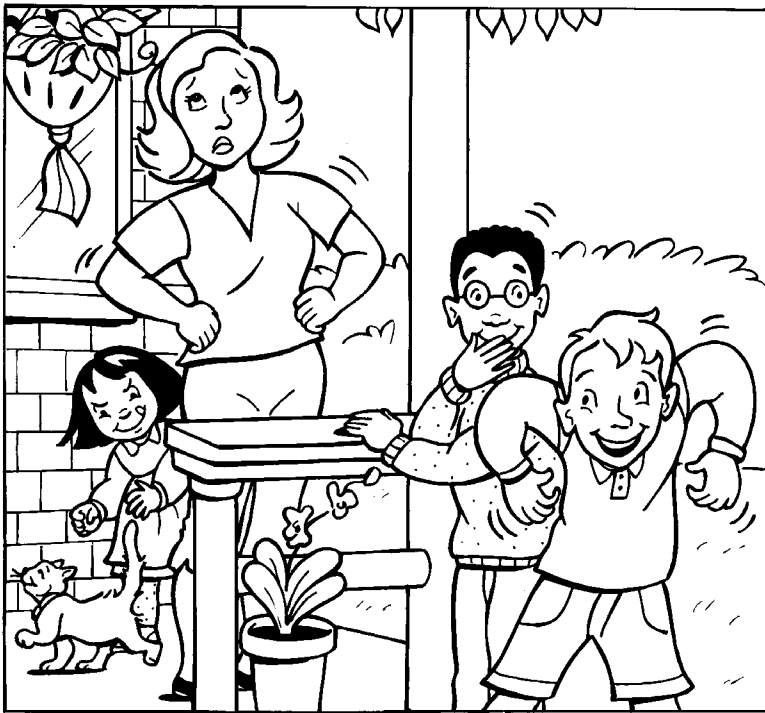
Corey hurried over to hear his mother's important news.

"I need you to baby-sit Mrs. Jordon's little girl, Lori, so her mom and I can talk for a while," Mom said.

“Forget it, Mom,” Corey retorted.
“Theodore and I are building a fort this morning. Besides, Dad says Lori is incorrigible.”

Theodore poked Corey with his elbow.
“What does incorrigible mean?” he asked.

“Dad says it means Lori has horrible manners and she acts worse than an orangutan,” Corey said.



“Lori is not incorrigible. She’s just a normal four-year-old girl. If you’re a good sport about Lori,” Mom implored, “I promise to take you and Theodore to the Matterhorn Movieplex for popcorn and a movie.”

Corey and Theodore grinned at each other and nodded.

A short form stepped out from behind Corey's mom. She was gnawing on an apple.

"She doesn't look like an orangutan," Theodore said. "She looks like an ordinary kid."

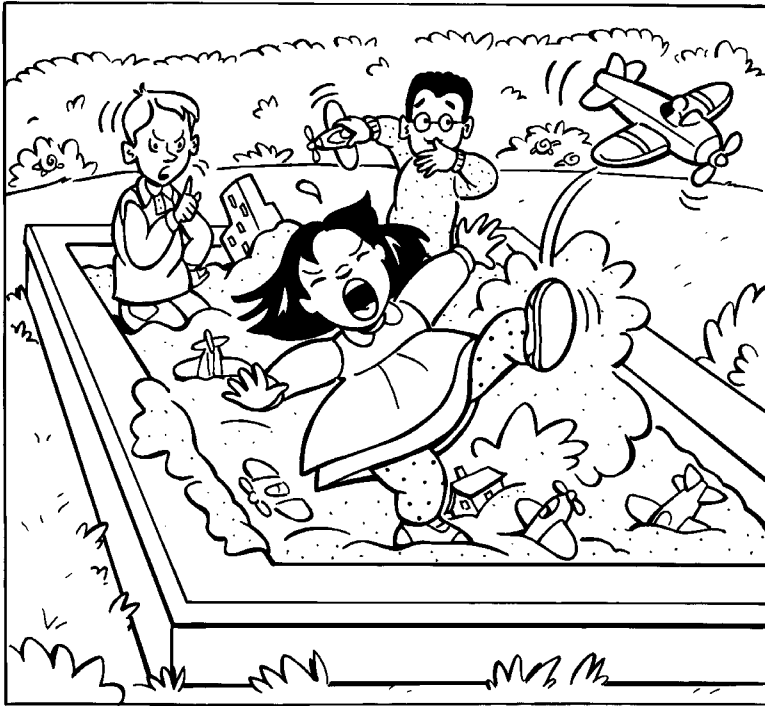
Lori threw her apple core, and it hit Theodore on the head. BONK!



"See what I mean? She's Horrible Lori." Corey groaned. "Come on, Lori, let's play in the sandbox."

The boys walked away, but not before Lori tore an orchid from its pot and threw it on the porch. "I'm four!" she shouted.





Corey and Theodore found some toy airplanes and began to build a busy airport in the sandbox. Like a horrible giant, Lori kicked up a sandstorm and destroyed the entire airport.

“Lori, no more kicking!” Corey ordered.

“I’m four!” Horrible Lori roared. She kicked another plane, sending it soaring out of the sandbox and into a bush.

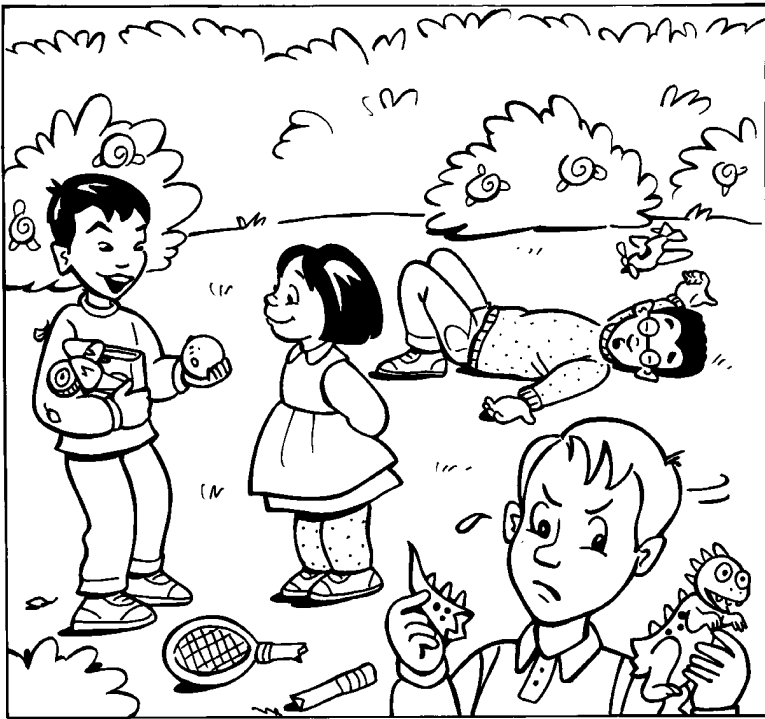


Next they played astronauts in orbit, but Horrible Lori broke their cardboard spaceship. They gave Lori a coloring book and crayons, but she tore out the pages and broke all the crayons. They played with toy cars and trucks until Lori got bored. She stormed off and threw a toy motorcycle into the yard next door.

“No more. I’m worn out!” Theodore said.
“What’s the secret formula for making
Horrible Lori behave?”

Suddenly, Norman, the neighbor,
crawled through the thorny bushes carrying
the broken toy motorcycle, a book, and an
orange. He gave Lori the orange and tickled
her under the chin.

“I’m four!” Lori said. Norman laughed.



“Should I feed you this orange, read you
a story, or both?” Norman asked, patting
Lori’s head. She looked as if she would melt
with delight.

“Can I baby-sit her for a while?” Norman
implored the older boys.

“YES!” Corey and Theodore shouted.

And that’s how the boys discovered
that Norman was their secret formula
for turning Horrible Lori into just an
ordinary kid.

